

Message Text

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PAGE 01 KINGST 04737 141737Z
ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-05 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 CIAE-00
DODE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-01 ICA-11 /064 W
-----056113 151337Z /64

R 141619Z JUN 78
FM AMEMBASSY KINGSTON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1752
INFO AMEMBASSY BRIDGETOWN
AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN
AMEMBASSY NASSAU
AMEMBASSY PORT OF SPAIN

C O N F I D E N T I A L KINGSTON 4737

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PGOV, JM
SUBJECT: MININT SECURITY TO RUN FOR LOWER HOUSE; POST OF DEPUTY
PRIME MINISTER WILL BE HIS IF HE SUCCEEDS

REF: KINGSTON 3677

1. THE DAILY GLEANER ON JUNE 13 REPORTED THAT MINISTER OF
SECURITY DUDLEY THOMPSON HAD BEEN SELECTED TO RUN FOR THE
LOWER HOUSE SEAT BEING VACATED BY FORMER FINANCE MINISTER
DAVID COORE. THIS CHOICE WAS MADE BY THE CONSTITUENCY IN
ST. ANDREW AND REPORTEDLY ENDORSED BY THE TOP "PNP BRASS".
IT WILL BE RECALLED THAT IN TWO PREVIOUS TRYs FOR A SEAT IN
THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES THOMPSON LOST TO OPPOSITION
LEADER SEAGA.

2. COMMENTING TO EMBOFFS ON GLEANER REPORT SHORTLY AFTER
PUBLICATION, THOMPSON SAID IT WAS TRUE BUT HE HAD NOT
PLANNED TO TELL THE PM OF HIS ACCEPTANCE UNTIL THE NEXT DAY.
THOMPSON ADDED THAT MANLEY WANTED HIM TO RUN FOR COORE'S
SEAT SO HE COULD ALSO NAME HIM TO SUCCEED COORE AS
DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER, A POST THOMPSON PRETENDED TO DEPLORE
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PAGE 02 KINGST 04737 141737Z

AS TIME CONSUMING AND CEREMONIAL.

3. COMMENT: SHOULD THOMPSON WIN, IT WILL HELP TO SILENCE
OPPOSITION AND PRESS CRITICISM OF MANLEY FOR HAVING TOO
MANY APPOINTED SENATORS IN CABINET POSTS. SHOULD HE WIN
AND BE APPOINTED THE POST OF DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER- WHOSE
PRINCIPAL TASK IS TO ACT IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S NAME WHEN

THE HEAD OF GOVERNMENT IS OUT OF THE COUNTRY- THOMPSON
WILL NOMINALLY BECOME ONE OF THE BIGGEST MEN IN THE PARTY.
THE NEW POST WOULD INDICATE THAT MANLEY HAS CONFIDENCE IN
HIS ABSOLUTE LOYALTY. IT MIGHT ALSO BE THAT MANLEY WILL
NOT APPOINT THOMPSON TO THE POST OF JUSTICE MINISTER WHICH
WAS THOUGHT QUITE PROBABLE AND THAT THE PM WISHES TO EMPHASIZE
THE IMPORTANCE OF THE INTERNAL SECURITY PORTFOLIO AT A TIME
OF NATIONAL ECONOMIC CRISIS AND ANTICIPATED CONFRONTATION.
IRVING

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Concepts: ELECTION CANDIDATES, LOWER HOUSE, PERSONNEL MOVEMENTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 14 jun 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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